

# November 2012 LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

PLEASE JOIN CMS THIS NOVEMBER IN RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT LUNG CANCER WHILE HELPING PATIENTS WITH MEDICARE QUIT USING TOBACCO BY ENCOURAGING APPROPRIATE USE OF THE PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES COVERED BY MEDICARE.

## THE ISSUE

Tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States, yet more than 45 million Americans still smoke cigarettes.

## YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT

Quitting is hard. Provide support to your patients to increase their chance of success. Empower your patients to make healthier choices. Help protect the health of your patients and talk to them about Medicare-covered preventive services.

## OUR SUPPORT

Medicare provides coverage of tobacco-use cessation counseling for certain beneficiaries who use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a recognized tobacco-related disease or who exhibit symptoms consistent with tobacco-related disease. Medicare also covers tobacco-use cessation counseling services for certain beneficiaries who use tobacco, regardless of whether they have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease. Medicare's prescription drug benefit also covers smoking and tobacco-use cessation agents prescribed by a physician.

For more information please view the Tobacco-use Cessation Counseling Services brochure <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/smoking.pdf>

For additional preventive services covered by Medicare please visit: <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/PreventiveServices.html>

Thank you for joining with CMS in encouraging people with Medicare to break the smoking habit.

**NOVEMBER 15**

**37<sup>th</sup> Great American Smokeout**

*The American Cancer Society encourages smokers to use this day to make a plan to quit, or to plan in advance and quit smoking that day.*

**Nearly 1 Million smokers quit on the first Great American Smokeout.**